

NOV 16 2006

Application No.: 10/781,021

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-436 CIP CONT

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's Notice of Allowance mailed October 20, 2006. In response to the Examiner's Notice of Allowance, Applicants have amended paragraph [0001] of the specification to properly claim priority of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/789,936, filed February 15, 2001.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested Amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: November 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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